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04606.P002X

Patent

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Nabors, et al.

Examiner: Choules, J.

Group Art Unit: 2761

Application No.: 09/374,577

Filed: August 13, 1999

For: Apparatus and Process for Facilitating  
Customer-driven Sales of Products  
Having Multiple ConfigurationsAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This response is submitted to an Office Action mailed *May 22, 2002*. In light of the following amendments and subsequent remarks, reconsideration of the above captioned application is respectfully requested.

In the Claims:

The currently pending claims should read as follows:

sub B17  
A1  
48. (Amended) A vehicle description language (VDL) employed by and between communicatively coupled computing systems to communicate information associated with a vehicle in support of application(s) executing thereon, the VDL employing a hierarchical data structure comprising:

- (a) a public block of data, having starting and ending delimiters that identify the beginning and end of the block of data, wherein the public block of data comprises:

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